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**INFORMATION REPORT**CD NO. *MJ/63*

COUNTRY Iran

DATE DISTR. 27 AUG 51

SUBJECT Formation of Left-Wing Newspaper Union

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PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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On 28 April 1951 a report was sent from the Iranian Prime Minister's Inspection Department to the Propaganda Department, the translation of which reads as follows: "Recently a large Newspapers' Union (Ittihadieh-yi-Jira'id) has come into existence in which are grouped a considerable number of newspaper directors who have decided to defend the rights of liberal papers against the Journalists' Association (Anjuman-i-Rugnamehnigaran).<sup>1</sup> Members of this Union have been heard to state that one or two directors with leftist tendencies have said that, should the Union so decide, it can obtain newsprint from the Soviets at a very low price on the understanding that it publish no articles against the freedom of the Tudeh Party. Among the members of this Union are Akbar Masuli, Mahmud Dezhgham, Mahmud Zhandi, Mohsin Farzaneh, and Amidi Nuri."<sup>2</sup>

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. The Iranian security authorities have seen general reports of the creation of such a body but do not know whether it is a formal association or merely a loose collection of individuals. They are aware that some of the persons connected with it have Tudeh Party affiliations.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. The following notes concern the persons mentioned in this report:

- a. Akbar Masudi: Full name, Akbar Masudi Shirazi; editor of Irshad-i-Millat; a lawyer who is very popular among the University students; has some Tudeh sympathies.
- b. Mahmud Dezhgham: Aged about 30 years; moderately well educated; works in the Ministry of Finance; was formerly editor of the newspaper Ragbar, and recently has been on the staff of Besouye Ayende, the leading clandestine Tudeh newspaper in Tehran. He spent four or five months in prison following the attempt on the life of the Shah in February 1949. He attends functions at the Soviet Embassy and the Rumanian Legation.
- c. Mahmud Zhandi: Editor of Besouye Ayende, widely-circulated clandestine Tudeh daily newspaper in Tehran.
- d. Mohsin Farzaneh: Editor of the newspaper Setarsh Asiya, organ

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d. Mohsin Farzaneh: Editor of the newspaper Setareh Asiya,  
organ of the Society for the Struggle against the Oil  
Company.

e. Amidi Nuri: Editor of the leftist daily, Dad.

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